

AGN. NO. _____

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH

SEPTEMBER 2, 2014

NURSING HOME INVESTIGATION PROGRAM

The Auditor-Controller has completed the second of two audits of the Department of Public Health's Nursing Home Investigation program. The second audit was released on August 27, 2014. This report highlights a number of operational deficiencies that impact the quality and integrity of nursing home investigations. The Department of Public Health indicates that they have made a number of immediate improvements and have implemented the majority of the recommendations in the Auditor-Controller's report. However, there is still more that can and must be done to ensure proper oversight of the care being provided to the vulnerable populations that reside in nursing homes and other long-term care facilities.

The Department of Public Health currently provides re-licensing, certification, surveys and investigations of the 2,525 health facilities in Los Angeles County. Approximately 396 of these facilities are nursing homes. Los Angeles County is responsible for oversight of 33% of all the facilities in the state, yet it is allocated only 15% of the State's operational funding for these services. This lack of appropriate funding for Los Angeles County has in part caused substandard program operations. The State must provide an acceptable level of funding commensurate with the workload for Los Angeles County.

I, THEREFORE, MOVE that the Board of Supervisors direct the Executive Officer of the Board to send a five-signature letter to the Governor of California, with copies to the County Legislative Delegation, urging him to immediately identify funding to address the shortfall for Los Angeles County, in order to improve the Department of Public Health's ability to effectively carry out inspection responsibilities through the County's contract with the State, and protect the health and safety of nursing home residents.

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